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President's Message

I'm finally unpacked from my move, and am now starting my annual preparing new exhibits. If you've never exhibited before, I recommend you give it a try. Not only do you get to show off your prized possessions, exhibiting will help focus your collecting and expand your knowledge. There's limited opportunity for exhibiting at local shows. Of course, the MSNA show in Ocean City has exhibits (there were about as many awards as exhibits last year) and so does the VNA show in Annandale. The ANA summer convention is the best place to exhibit (and it will be in Baltimore in 2008). You get to rub elbows with distinguished experts and well-known dealers, and you get a free ticket to the banquet. The ANA website money.org has a lot of material you can download on what to look for in exhibits and how to prepare one.



Preparing an exhibit is much like writing an article. As you organize your thoughts on the subject, you find there's a lot you don't know and need to look up. You may discover some new collecting area or even some rarities! The biggest advantage is that even a novice exhibitor can exhibit while articles have to meet a minimum professional standard to be accepted for publication. You will also find exhibitors and judges willing to give suggestions and other assistance.

The most important part of the exhibit is the scope, as it will set the boundaries for everything else. For example, if you collect U.S. silver dollars, you could do a date set of Peace dollars, or one from each mint. You could do a type set of

the different designs, or just the ones minted on a steam or electric press. Should you include trade dollars? What about silver certificates that pictured dollar coins? The items you currently have in your collection will limit what you can exhibit, and that will determine your title and the information you will include. If you want to expand the scope, you may have to buy new coins, and as you learn more about the subject, you may decide on a new specialty. You'll also want to pick up collateral material, which are non-numismatic items that may dress up the exhibit (e.g., a picture of the coin's designer or a copy of a contemporary newspaper article describing the coin's release). Exhibiting will help give you entry into the elite circle of serious collectors and make your hobby more enjoyable and educational.

Simcha Kuritzky

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<p>Reminder ■ Reminder ■ Reminder ■ Reminder Dues for 2006 were due on December 31, 2005. Exportation dates may be found on your mailing label. Please send your dues check to our treasurer at: Karl E. Keller, 1612 Creston Drive, Forest Hills, MD 21050. Make check payable to MSNA. Club dues are \$15.00 and individuals are \$10.00. This will be your last journal if your expiration date is 12/31/2005 or earlier</p>	

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The Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis

FUTURE SHOW DATES

12 March - Associated Coin Club Victory Villa Community Center, 404 Compass Road, Essex, MD Free Admission and Parking.

17 – 19 March - Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention (Berg Show), Baltimore Convention Center, One West Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

1 April - Red Rose Coin Club Show, Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA, Free Parking and Admission.

8 – 9 April - Western Maryland Coin Club Show, LaVale Fire Hall #-1, 421 National Highway, LaVale, MD (West of Cumberland). Sat. 10 AM to 5 PM, Sun. 10 AM to 3 PM.

23 April - Annapolis Coin and Currency Show - Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Road (Route 2), Annapolis/Edgewater, MD 21037. 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Free Parking and Admission.

22 - 23 April - Vienna Quarterly Coin & Stamp Show, Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street (Take Park Street (south) off Maple Avenue (Route 123), 1/4 mile on right), Vienna, VA, Free Parking and Admission.

12 – 14 May - Penna. Association of Numismatists (PAN), Pittsburgh ExpoMart, Business Route 22, off Exit 57 PA turnpike, Monroeville, PA. Free Admission & Parking. Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 to 6; Sun. 10 to 3.

4 June - BANC - Towson Holiday Inn, 1100 Cromwell Bridge Road, Towson, MD (Exit 29 South off I-695) 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

13 – 16 July - Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention (Berg Show), Baltimore Convention Center, One West Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

5 – 6 August - Vienna Quarterly Coin & Stamp Show, Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street (Take Park Street (south) off Maple Avenue (Route 123), 1/4 mile on right), Vienna, VA, Free Parking and Admission.

16 – 19 August – ANA Convention, Denver Convention Center, 700 14th Street, Denver, Colorado: www.money.org

2 – 3 Sept. - Interstate Coin Club Show - Venice Inn - Hotel Ballroom, 431 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD, Free admission and parking.

8 – 10 Sept. - Virginia Numismatic Association, Northern Virginia Community College, R. J. Ernst Community Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike (Capital Beltway Exit 6 West), Annandale, Virginia



The following article is reprinted with the permission of the Heritage Coin Gallery. The article was taken from the Heritage web site

Found Treasures: 2005 Buffalo Nickel

By Stewart Huckaby

When I think of a Buffalo Nickel, I usually picture the classic type of five cent piece minted between 1913 and 1938, not that the date is exactly visible on many of the coins. As far back as I can remember, and I've been collecting coins since I was a child, Buffalo Nickels were interesting and different, while Jefferson Nickels were, well, blah. There is something about this coin that captured the spirit of Americana, for lack of a better term, and derivatives from wooden nickels to commemorative US coins have taken advantage of James Earle Fraser's design.

So, when it became time to commemorate Lewis & Clark's exploration of the northwest, the Mint, in the best tradition of the American Eagle coins and several recent commemoratives, decided to recycle an old and successful idea. The bison, which in the interim had appeared on a number of commemorative coins, returned to the nickel for too brief a stay, lending character to a denomination desperately in need of some. On top of this, Thomas Jefferson's portrait was redone in a manner completely new to American coinage, showing only his face in profile, and what resulted was, in my opinion, the outstanding circulating coin the US has seen since the heyday of coin designs in the early 20th century. This article merely reflects my appreciation of the piece.

Granted, there's not a lot of competition; for example, most of the Statehood Quarters look like Shell coins designed by committee. But with the recent changes to the nickel, the Mint has to be given credit for taking artistic risks on one side, while providing character on the other. Literally.

Will we see something like the 2005 Buffalo Nickel in the future? Who knows. The 2006 Nickel will return to the old Monticello reverse, presumably because the congressional delegation from the state of Virginia feels that their state is entitled to free publicity on the reverse of every five cent coin, and managed to pass a law requiring Monticello to be returned to the coin. However, the obverse will be far different than what we've seen in the past, much more in line with the 2005 design than anything seen on the nickel before that time. Derived directly from the famous 1800 Rembrandt Peale portrait, the obverse shows Jefferson facing the viewer from the left side of the coin, with the date, mintmark and all legends on the right side, very similar to last year's model. The script "Liberty", derived from Jefferson's own writing, is back.

Time will tell whether the 2006 redesign will be a success in execution; certainly, Lord knows that I have no idea of how a coin is going to look until it's in my hand and down to an AU58 grade. It is a credit to the Mint that they are continuing to take risks with our circulating coinage. It's just too bad they had only one side on which to do it.

Frederick County Coin Club

The **Frederick County Coin Club** is a new club that is forming in the Frederick area. They meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM. Meetings are held at Spring Ridge elementary school, 9501 Ridgefield Dr. From downtown Frederick, take 144, East Patrick Street, past the Fairgrounds, Roy Rogers, Waffle House. Go straight through traffic light at I-70 intersection, continue on 144 up the hill over the Monocacy River. Make the 3rd left, it's the left directly before the next traffic light. Membership is open to anyone who has an interest in coins, currency or other numismatic items. Our meetings include a raffle and an educational seminar. Please contact Curt Colburn at ccplants@ufl.edu or write at 1301 Ditto Ave Frederick MD 21702 if interested.

The following officers were installed at the February meeting:

President:	Curt Colburn	Vice President:	Rick Milauskas
Secretary:	Matt Sherman (YN)	Treasurer:	Karl Woodcock
Board member:	George Slade		

UNITED STATES LARGE CENTS (1793-1857)

By *Ron Guth* (www.coinfacts.com)

One of the first coins struck at the U.S. Mint was the Large Cent. This large, clunky copper coin was struck from 1793 to 1857, inclusive, with the exception of 1815, when a fire forced the closing of the Mint.

Three design types appeared in 1793, each an attempted improvement over the previous. The first design, known as the 1793 "Chain" Cent, features a low-relief head of Liberty with fine, flowing locks of hair. The reverse shows a chain of fifteen links, connected in a never-ending loop. Initial reaction to the coins was quite negative: Liberty appeared to be in a fright and the chain was seen by many as representing bondage and slavery as opposed to strength and union. As a result, Liberty's hair was strengthened and the chain was replaced with a wreath. Known as the 1793 "Wreath" Cent, this design fared little better than its predecessor and was soon replaced. The "Liberty Cap" design turned out to be a little more enduring. Minted from 1794 to 1796, this design type is full of interesting varieties, many of them rare. In 1795, the weight of the Large Cent was reduced and the edge lettering was replaced with a plain edge. Some of the 1797 Large Cents have a curious "Gripped Edge."

In 1796, the "Draped Bust" design appeared. This type was minted until 1807. Rare dates in this type include the elusive 1799 and the popular 1804.

The "Classic Head" Large Cent ran from 1808 to 1814. Although none of the dates are rare, they are hard to find in nice condition.

The "Matron Head" design appeared in 1816 and lasted until 1839. Scarce dates include 1821 and 1823. Known as "Middle Dates", this series contains many interesting varieties that are of great interest to a large number of collectors. Certain rare varieties can be worth hundreds or thousands of dollars.

The final design type is the "Braided Hair" type of 1840 to 1857. The last year is both scarce as a date and popular as the last year of the denomination.

In 1857, the Large Cent was replaced by the new Small Cent, a much more manageable (but less impressive) coin.

Ron Guth (ron@germancoins.com)

To learn more about U.S. Large Cents, Ron recommends the following books (these books can be purchased at www.coinfacts.com "The Internet Encyclopedia and Price Guide of United States Coins" or borrowed from the ANA Library).

Penny Whimsy by Dr. **William H. Sheldon**

Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States Cents 1793-1814 by **Walter Breen** and **Mark Borckardt**

United States Large Cents, Volumes I & II by **William C. Noyes**

United States Copper Cents 1816-1857 by **Howard R. Newcomb**

The Cent Book 1816-1839 by **John D. Wright**

CUSTOMER OF THE WEEK/ PHONE CALL OF THE WEEK

By Tony Swicer

Over the past 5 years we have had a segment in my talks at the club meeting called "customer of the week" or "phone call of the week". These are true stories of people who have called or come into the coin shop. I am not making any of these up. The following is a compellation of those stories.

1. An officer from the ATF is running a drug seizure auction and he wants me to appraise the coins. I went down to the courthouse and the first thing I saw was fake California gold coins. Then, I looked at a fake Continental dollar, fake Mormon gold, and fake Pandas. I said to the officer that most of this stuff was fake. He says, "well we are going to sell it anyway, after all its buyer beware".
2. "I heard about MS-70 for cleaning coins". I said the main purpose of any of these cleaners is to bring out the luster. If you use anything, use acetone and a cotton swab. He says, "I metal detect, that won't hurt the coin will it?" I said that his coins were probably so far gone, it wouldn't matter.
3. A guy asks, "where are the holes in the book for the 2000 and 2001 Delaware quarter?"
4. Phone call, "are you familiar with the million dollar bill?" I said yes, "they are black and yellow with the statue of liberty on them and they sell at Disneyland for \$1.99 a pack. "Oh no, mine are original, yours are reproductions".
5. A guy calls and says he has a \$1000 bill and what is it worth? I said, ballpark \$1100. He brings it in, it's from Peru, and it's worthless.
6. A guy comes in with a 1858 flying eagle cent in fine condition. What is it worth? I said when it's heavily cleaned, all prices drop drastically. He says, "What do you mean, I clean all my coins, I don't like tarnish".
7. A guy comes in with some buffed up dollars he bought on QVC for \$16 each. They were heavily polished worth \$4 each. I told him to sell them back to QVC.

The following articles are reprinted with the permission of the American Numismatic Association. The articles are taken from the ANA web site and from the YN newsletter "Your Newsletter". The newsletter is published weekly (usually every Friday) and is free to anyone who wishes to subscribe. Just e-mail yournewsletter@money.org and provide your full name and e-mail address.

FLOWING HAIR AND DRAPED BUST SILVER DOLLARS

by Richard Terkowitz

Congress authorized the minting of silver dollars in the Coinage Act of April 2, 1792. The first silver dollars were issued in 1794. >From 1794 to 1804, HUNDRED CENTS, ONE DOLLAR OR UNIT was struck on the edge with decorations between words. Flowing Hair and Draped Bust silver dollars weighed 26.96 grams, equal to the weight of a Spanish milled dollar, which were struck from 1732 to 1772. They were made with an alloy of 89 percent silver and 11 percent copper and were 39-40 mm wide. Robert Scot designed both types. In 1794, 1,758 silver dollars were minted. The director of the U.S. mint illegally increased their silver composition because of metallurgical problems that cost the government over \$2,000. In 1795, 160,295 Flowing Hair silver dollars were struck. The Draped Bust type was issued in 1795 with the small eagle reverse of the Flowing Hair dollar which was used until 1798. The reverse was changed to the heraldic eagle type in early 1798. In 1804, 19,570 silver dollars were struck from dies with earlier dates. Silver dollar coinage (as well as \$10 gold pieces) was stopped in 1804 because they were sent to the West Indies and exchanged for a larger number of Spanish milled dollars. When the Spanish milled dollars were brought back they were exchanged for American dollars. About 1 1/2 million silver dollars were coined between 1794 and 1803. Eight original 1804 silver dollars were struck in 1834-35 for presentation proof sets. Seven restrikes were minted in 1859 for collectors. Numismatists know these coins were struck after 1804 because silver dollars struck in 1803 and before have elongated denticles, not beaded segments and a raised rim like those struck after 1836.

Sources: A Guide Book to United States Coins. R. S. Yeomen. 2003., Coin Collecting for Dummies. Ron Guth. 2001., A History of United States Coinage As Illustrated by the Garrett Collection. Q. David Bowers. 1980.

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Summary of MSNA Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2005 - Sixteen officers and board members were present. President Kuritzky asked for all pertinent information pertaining to end of year taxes be forwarded to him for filing. A donation was made to the Tiger Woods Foundation in the memory of dealer Paul Finck. Bill Lenz reported on his responses to a convention center survey. He also wrote a letter to Mike Wicklein of the OctoberFest for is courtesy extended to MSNA officers, pages and dealers. Bob Harden, of the Salisbury Coin Club stated that he though the convention went very smooth and offered some suggestions for new locations of the banner for 2006. Ed Craig reported that the hall setup went better than expected. It was suggested and approved that MSNA keep the show at two days rather then extend into a three-day show. Carl Ostiguy and Bob Ruby were appointed as Co-Bourse chairs with Ed Craig to assist. All other committee chairs for 2005 will remain the same for 2006.

Mill Hajek said that 1000 elongated coins were made for the show and that most of them were given out. Division of show profit was discussed and then tabled for the next meeting. Some convention center cost will go up for 2006. A motion to raise table fees by \$10.00 per table failed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:53 PM.

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Money Talks: ANCIENT HEART

S by Michael E. Marotta

Heart symbols are everywhere on Valentine's Day. Maybe even on a coin. The first heart symbols that appeared on ancient coins were produced 2500 years ago in North Africa. Greeks founded the town of Cyrene in the 7th century B.C. Their town was eventually destroyed, but it was near what today is the city of Benghazi, along the coast of Libya. The city enjoyed modest prosperity . . . until its inhabitants discovered the silphium plant. (The plant is extinct now, but its closest living relative is a key ingredient in Worcestershire sauce.) Silphium was used as an herb. Its stalk was edible. Its pungent sap was the basis for cough syrups, and gave food an interesting flavor. But the most important use for silphium was as a contraceptive.

Modern research suggests that silphium actually worked, and because of this, it was in great demand. Attempts to cultivate it in Syria and Greece were unsuccessful. It only grew near Cyrene - and, starting in 500 B.C., it became a steady source of income for the townspeople. By Roman times, silphium had been harvested to extinction.

Over the centuries, the silphium plant came to symbolize Cyrene. The plant appeared on the town's gold, silver and bronze coins, starting around 500 B.C. Often the entire plant was shown. But sometimes, only the seeds of the plant were depicted. The silphium's seeds were heart-shaped, and those heart-shaped seeds that appeared on Cyrene's coins eventually came to symbolize love - a symbol that's still with us today.



2005 MSNA Peel & Paste Party

Was held at Bill Lenz's residence on Saturday, September 10, 2005. Pictured (L to R) kneeling: Carolyn Lenz, Bill Stratemeyer, Bob Ruby, Bryce Doxzon Standing (L to R): Mill Hajek, Dot Hajek, Mary Keller, Karl Keller, Don Curtis, Frank Murphy, Bill Ayres, Stacy Davis, Larry Goldman, Mitzi Stratemeyer. Bill Lenz (not pictured) took the picture.

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BENJAMIN FRANKLIN: THE MONEYMAN

By Hank Schab – Colonial Coin Club

The 300th year of Ben Franklin's birth is approaching rapidly and to celebrate this occasion, the U. S. Mint is coining two 2006 commemorative silver coins. Why two? Well, his distinguished career is to be remembered by his (1) youthful years and his (2) older years since he accomplished so much in these two periods.

What is to be pictured on these two coins presents a difficult task for the designer. For example, Carl Van Dorn describes Franklin as "a harmonious human multitude". In his lifetime he was an apprentice, a printer, shopkeeper, bookseller, pamphleteer, balladier, soldier, firefighter, inventor, scientist, philosopher, legislator, ambassador, statesman AND the only man who put his signature on four important historical documents pertinent to the founding of this country. They were the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty with France, the peace accord with England and the U. S. Constitution. In addition, he devised the first federal plan for America, the unfulfilled Albany Plan of 1754, under which the seven states and the federal government would have shared power in government.

His scientific feats are well known. He is mostly remembered for proving that lightning was a form of electricity by flying a kite in a lightning storm and nearly "ELECTRISED" himself and his young son. It was reported that a similar experiment proved fatal to a Russian scientist. From this feat he developed the lightning rod to tame it. Incidentally an original Franklin lightning rod is still atop the State Capitol building in Annapolis. Franklin describes very vividly the shock he received from one of his electricity experiments. "I then felt what I know not how well to describe: an universal Blow thro'out my Whole Body from head to foot which seem'd within as well as without; after which the first thing I took notice of was a violent quick shaking of my body which gradually remitting, my senses gradually return'd ... and Recollected what I had been about to do; that part of my hands and finger which held the Chain was left white as tho' the Blood had been Driven Out. And Remained so 8 or 10 minutes After feeling like Dead flesh, and I had a Numbness in my Arms and the back of my Neck, which continued All the Next Morning but wore off. Nothing Remains now of this Shock but a soreness in my breast bone, which feels as if it had been Bruised."

He found practical ways to make stoves less smoky through the Franklin stove. He invented bifocal glasses; he organized neighborhood police forces, lending libraries, the postal system, etc., etc. The things this amazing man produced are endless. The "Air Bath" was his "oddest invention". His many interests, exploits, publications, printing business, etc., made him a rich man at an early age. He was able to retire in his 40's to devote all of his time to carefree pursuits, a public life and a political life. He spent many years in England as a U. S. business agent for several colonies (Georgia, New Jersey and Massachusetts) and for private individuals representing their interests with the British crown. He was dispatched to France in 1776 to seek French aid (money and men) to support the Revolutionary effort. It was basically through his dedicated efforts with the French authorities and nobility that money and troops finally arrived to support the Revolution.

Franklin's first attempt to sway public opinion in money matters was a book or pamphlet published in 1729 entitled "A Modest Enquiry into the Nature & Neceffity of a Paper Currency". The paper was written when he was 22 and first appeared in the Maryland Gazette of December 17, 1728. Later it was printed in pamphlet form. He tried to explain the need for a paper currency. However, there was much controversy about the "value" of paper currency. One James Logan of Philadelphia, governor of Pennsylvania from 1736 – 1738, expressed the opinions and feelings of a great number of merchants and creditors when he wrote "the popular phrensy will never stop till their credit will be as in New England where an ounce of silver is worth 20 shillings of their paper. They already talk of making more and no man dares appear to stem the fury of the popular rage". In New England printing of money as it was deemed necessary brought on great inflation because there was no secure backing of land, gold and/or silver. Many people suffered heavy losses. The concept of money being driven out by bad prevailed. Gold and silver coins disappeared when paper was issued in quantify. It was well received by the common people in general but the rich men disliked it for it increased and strengthened the clamor for printing of more money. Franklin said "my friends there who conceived I had been of some serious thought fit to reward me by employing me in printing the money, a very profitable job and a great help to me. This was another advantage gained by my being able to write".

Following many experiments Franklin had the ingenuity to make his own woodcuts and ink and engraved copperplate vignettes. Based on careful observations that veins of leaves are never alike, he produced a different leaf design that he first used on his Pennsylvania notes. This method made counterfeiting more difficult and was also used in the printing of early Delaware, New Jersey and Continental currency. Eric Newman noted "Franklin and the currency printers of early America with whom Franklin shared his knowledge, kept this invention a secret in spite of the fact that the product of their work was widely circulated from its issuance. The ingenuity of his mind to invent a process which was clever enough to be seen but not recognized for over 226 years bespeaks of his genius". Surely Franklin had tremendous influence in connection with the acceptance by colonists of flat money.

Many demands were made of Franklin outside his printing shops so in 1764 he withdrew from active printing and Hall & Sellers starting in March 1769 and continuing to 1780 printed succeeding issues of Pennsylvania notes.

Beside paper currency, Ben Franklin played a significant role in the development of pre-U. S. Mint American coinage. He recommended the "MIND YOUR BUSINESS" legend for both coins and currency. He vetoed the inclusion of an eagle on U. S. money because of this bird's fierce desperation and recommended the turkey as a suitable American symbol. Medals were also his interest: for example, the *Libertas Americana* medal and the Benjamin Franklin "NAYUS" Boston medals were his creations. He conceived, commissioned and produced the *Libertas Americana* medal and hoped for congressional sanction, which never came. The medal was struck by order of Franklin in Paris to commemorate the end of the American Revolution and the independence of the United States. This medal was the inspiration for the nation's first large cent.

Franklin's influence on numismatics extended beyond his many currency theories. He even proposed the initiation of fractional currency to be used by the Bank of North America. This was to try to alleviate the serious crises of lack of small change. He suggested the bank issue paper money in denominations of $\frac{1}{90}$ and $\frac{3}{90}$ of a dollar. He believed these odd denominations would provide an amount of change for small purchases. His grandson, Benjamin F. Backe, was to print these notes. (Note: $\frac{3}{90}$ of a dollar was equal to one-penny specie/copper).

These fractional notes were to satisfy the need for small change. This was not approved.

Over the years his portrait has appeared on countless medals, private coins, currency and on U. S. Mint medals. He is the only non-President to have his portrait on U. S. coins made for circulation. This brilliant man will always be remembered for his many contributions to the founding of this nation. It is appropriate that he will again be honored by the coins to be minted in 2006 – the 300th year of his birth.



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Club News

Two clubs have reported their new officers for 2006. The **Harford Coin Huskers** have installed: George Sauthof – President; Robert W. Ruby – Vice President; Don McKinstry – Treasurer and William A. Ayres, Jr. as Secretary.

Officers for the **Carroll County Coin Club** are: President – Robert W. Ruby; Vice President – Don Leister; Treasurer – Lewis Erb and Secretary – Betty Erb.

MEMBER CLUBS IN GOOD STANDING

Baltimore Area Numismatic Coalition P. O. Box 3273 Balto., MD 21228-0273 Bobruby@qis.net	Baltimore Coin Club P. O. Box 43681 Baltimore, MD 21236-0681 ***	Belmar Coin Club P. O. Box 273 Fallston, MD 21047 ***
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Robert W. Ruby

P. O. Box 2212

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The Maryland Numismatist



2006

VOLUME 34 - No 2

**The
Maryland
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Numismatic
Association,
Inc.**



The *MARYLAND NUMISMATIST* is the quarterly publication of MSNA and is distributed to all members in good standing without additional cost.

EDITOR

Robert W. Ruby
P. O. Box 2212
Westminster, MD 21158-2212

E-Mail: bobruby@qis.net

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- #-2 Carroll County Coin Club
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President's Message

With summer fast approaching, I'm sure many of you are planning vacations and short trips. I'd like to suggest that you plan one more short trip: to a local coin club that you are not a member of. There are over a dozen clubs that are members of MSNA, a few in Maryland that aren't, or if you live close to the border, there are clubs in Delaware, Pennsylvania, the District and Virginia. Most are members of the ANA and their bulletins and meeting information are available on the ANA web site money.org. You could also attend one of MSNA's board meetings to see what's going on for yourself. We provide light refreshments and now have a door prize. If you belong to a club that does not currently send a representative to the board meetings, you can represent your club.



You might find members or the meetings interesting enough to join and attend regularly. Even if you already are active in one club, seeing how another club operates can give you ideas on how to improve your own club's meetings. Club meetings can include exhibits, a speaker, refreshments, schmoozing, auction, and private trading. A generation ago, clubs were the easiest way for collectors to get together and share their interests. Today, with the Internet, much of the communication has gone electronic, but there is no real substitute for personal contact.

So make a point to visit just one extra club meeting this year. The club will appreciate it and you might find broadening your horizon a bit would increase your enjoyment of our hobby.

MSNA will hold it's annual educational forum on Saturday, July 15, 2006 at 5:00 PM. in conjunction with the Baltimore Coin & Currency Show (Berg & Kuzmar Show) in the Baltimore Convention Center. Bring a couple of friends.

Simcha Kuritzky

THE COLONIAL COIN CLUB

Hank Schab, Secretary

The Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis recently elected the following officers for the year 2006. The slate consists of President – Betty Meck; Vice-President – Art Coughlin; Treasurer – Buddy Houghton and for Secretary - Hank Schab, who will also serve as club historian.

Over 25 members gather at the Anne Arundel Public Library on West Street in Annapolis, twice a month – The second and fourth Monday of each month from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Besides the usual meeting agenda with an auction, door prizes and refreshments, a member at each meeting presents a talk on some numismatic subject of his or her choosing. We strongly try to emphasize the educational aspect, which also includes outside speakers.

In addition the club also presents programs for senior homes, show and tell features at local schools, along with State and county organizations. The club also sponsors several coin shows each year. One of the senior members recently designed a medal for the 150th anniversary of a local church. He was also instrumental in designing medals for several former ANA conventions held in Baltimore.

Visitors and prospective members are always welcome.

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Club Officers: (L to R) – Hank Schab, Betty Meck, Art Coughlin and Buddy Houghton.

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The Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis

9th MSNA President – Bob Ruby

Bob got interested in numismatics back in the late '70's when he was the official chauffeur for his son, Greg. As time progressed, he had his arm twisted to be the General show chairman for MSNA, which he did for five years. With Greg being active in a lot of clubs, Dad became more involved. Today, Bob is a member of eleven coin clubs and very active in eight of them. Over the years, he has served as President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or a board member of all eight clubs and is the editor of the MSNA Journal; the Maryland Numismatist, since 2002. He also served as Assistant Co-General chairman of the 1983 Baltimore ANA convention and he also served in a chairman's role in both the 1993 and 2003 ANA Baltimore conventions.

Bob is a life member of the Maryland Token & Medal Society, Maryland State Numismatic Association and the Eastern States Numismatic Association and a related membership in the Carroll County Historical Society, plus three of the local volunteer fire companies, Hampstead (life member), Manchester and Westminster. With the Westminster VFD, he is a member of the Fire Police.

He has received the "Numismatist of the Year" award four times, from MSNA in 1982 and 1986 and from MANA (now Eastern States) in 1986 and 1993. He also received two other awards from MD Tams, the Literary Award in 2000 and the Membership Award in 2003.

He also maintains the membership database for five coin clubs, along with a lot of the computer processing of various forms and advertising post cards and other items to be mailed. Bob keeps a database of the patrons who attend the MSNA, BANC and Annapolis coin shows. The MSNA patron database contains about 7,000 names and addresses. He is one of the three bourse co-chairmen for the 2006 MSNA show in Ocean City in October. He has put together some Trivia questions that were used at several MSNA's shows and by Larry Gentile (ANA's YN Chairman at the time). He also assisted with the editing and formatting of the MSNA 30-Year History book. In 2001, he designed and posted a web page for MD TAMS and the Eastern States Numismatic Association.

The following articles are reprinted with the permission of the American Numismatic Association. The articles are taken from the ANA web site and from the YN newsletter "*Your Newsletter*". The newsletter is published weekly (usually every Friday) and is free to anyone who wishes to subscribe. Just e-mail yournewsletter@money.org and provide your full name and e-mail address.

Machin's Mills

by Max Spiegel

After the American Revolution, there was a massive shortage of coins since many were melted to make munitions and weapons necessary to fight the war. The fledgling federal government authorized Fugio cents, the first cents officially authorized by Congress, to be minted, and some states such as New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Connecticut ordered their own coppers. Private mints also produced coins for circulation or as pattern pieces for possible use in a new national currency. With all of these new coins being minted, it comes with no surprise that there were many counterfeiters hoping to take advantage of the many types of coins in circulation at the time.

One such counterfeiter was called Machin's Mills, located in Newburgh, New York. This mint was named for Captain Thomas Machin, who was born on March 20, 1744/5 (Old Style) in Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, England. After becoming a "practical engineer," he immigrated to New York in 1772 to study New Jersey copper mines. Machin soon became involved with the revolutionary movement, joining the Boston Tea Party in 1773, later being wounded at the Battle of Bunker Hill, and then joining the Continental Army as a lieutenant under Colonel Henry Knox on January 18, 1776. After participating in many other battles, in March 1783 Machin was commissioned as Captain by General Henry Clinton.

During the years following the war, Machin began buying property in New Grange, NY (now called Newburgh) along Orange Lake, which later became known as Machin's Lake or Machin's Pond. Three years after building what has become known as "the mint house," Machin submitted a petition to become an official state mint to the New York State Assembly on March 3, 1787. His request, along with those of all of his competitors, was promptly rejected when New York decided that it would not have any official state mints. In what may have been an effort to circumvent this ruling, Machin formed a partnership, known as an indenture, on April 18 to produce copper coins (sometimes referred to as "Hard Ware") for the US government

or other states. Ironically, Machin's main partner was David Brooks, an assemblyman from New York, who had, in fact, prevented Machin from receiving permission from the Assembly to become a New York state mint. Other partners included James Grier, an associate of Brooks in New York City, Samuel Atlee, a New York City brewer, his son James Atlee, an engraver at the New Jersey mint located at Rahway Mills, and James Giles, an attorney from New York City who was connected to the others through various legal matters. It is also possible that a friend of Samuel Atlee, Albion Cox may have aided in setting up the mint. Apparently, Samuel Atlee was able to provide some of the equipment necessary for minting coins.

Soon, the Machin's Mills operation expanded, forming a partnership with the Reuben Harmon & Co. mint in Rupert, Vermont. Sixty-percent of the profit from all Vermont coins was to go to Machin and his associates, while 40% of profits from the other operations at the Mills were to go to the Vermont minters. Machin's Mills had many other contracts and produced coins for states such as Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Jersey. These legitimate operations were not satisfying for Machin, and in July 1787 he began to secretly mint "Tory Coppers," counterfeit George III halfpennies. Like most businesses, Machin's Mills was concerned with making as much money as possible; to them, making counterfeits was just another profit-motivated business venture. It's interesting that Machin's Mills chose to switch which coins he counterfeited from year to year, not to help keep his illicit operations secret, but because the public favored different designs during different years! Sometimes, Machin even overstruck a more popular design on a coin with a less popular one. Thomas N. Machin, Jr., son of the captain, said that the neighbors suspected their activities to be illegitimate because much work went on at night and some workers stood outside wearing masks to scare away any curious children.

Machin's Mills continued to grow, purchasing equipment from Walter Mould's mint in Morristown, New Jersey and from the Jarvis & Co. mint in New Haven, Connecticut after the government discontinued the minting of Fugio cents. Next, in April 1789, Machin bought the remaining machinery owned by Benjamin Buell, the son of Abel Buell, a partner in the Jarvis & Co. mint. Now the mint began to strike counterfeit Connecticut Coins, however, the quality quickly deteriorated. Of the approximately 60,000 coins minted in this final period of operations at Machin's Mills, the vast majority were very poorly made.

Unfortunately for Machin, his poorly made, counterfeit, usually very underweight coins ultimately caused the demise of his mint. New Yorkers began to lose confidence in the coppers in circulation, especially considering that Machin's Mills was the only mint in the state. During the summer of 1789 the public panicked and on July 12, 1789, the New York Common Council recommended that all copper coins be valued at 48 to the shilling. Just a few years earlier coppers circulated at 14 per shilling! Most merchants refused to accept any coppers, and there was no longer any demand for the coppers from Machin's Mills. The mint was probably abandoned in 1790 once New York adopted the federal constitution, as stated in a letter by the captain's son, Thomas N. Machin, Jr. Although Machin's Mills had somewhat of a lackluster finish, it was the last of the major private mints of the era and will forever be remembered for producing many of the most fascinating coins in American history.

Some good places to find additional information on Machin's Mills, along with pictures and descriptions of some of the varieties, are Walter Breen's [Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. & Colonial Coins](#) and Notre Dame's website: www.coins.nd.edu/ColCoin/ColCoinIntros/Machin.intro.html. Also, Notre Dame has a section devoted to James Atlee at: <http://www.coins.nd.edu/ColCoin/ColCoinIntros/Atlee.intro.html>.

Money Talks: *HEATON'S MINT*

by Thomas LaMarre

What's a country to do when it can't produce enough coins to satisfy the demands of its people? For many years, the British government turned to a private firm for help.

This is "A-N-A's Money Talks," and that firm was Heaton & Sons of Birmingham, England.

Engraver Ralph Heaton founded the business in 1817---and was eventually joined by his sons, George and Ralph. The Heatons manufactured ammunition, lamps, tubing and wire, and described themselves as "coiners" to the English, French and Italian governments.

Among coin collectors, Heaton & Sons is best known as the source of coins bearing the "H" mint mark---a small letter that's stamped onto a coin to indicate where it was made.

The first coins struck by Heaton & Sons were for Chile and Great Britain.

The company also made copper coin substitutes, known as "tokens," for the Bank of Upper Canada and Bank of Quebec. Profits from these contracts enabled the Heatons to build a new mint in the 1860s, and equip it with a dozen state-of-the-art coin presses.

Beginning in the 1870s, Heaton & Sons was commissioned to strike many official Canadian coins. Usually, the contracts were fulfilled without a hitch--but blunders were made occasionally. One of the most desirable and valuable error coins is an 1872 Queen Victoria half-dollar, with an upside-down "A" punched over the "V" in the inscription "Victoria." In uncirculated or "like-new" condition, it's worth up to \$9,000.

In the 1880s, Heaton & Sons sold shares of stock to the public, and the company changed its name to "The Mint, Birmingham." Although it hasn't made any Canadian coins in over 85 years, it's still in business today . . . as the famous "Birmingham Mint."

Thomas LaMarre

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Money Talks: ST. DAVID'S DAY

by Richard Doty

If you're of Welsh descent, you probably know that March 1st is the feast day of St. David, the patron of Wales. Wales has contributed a lot to the world, including the most common surname in English-speaking countries: Jones. But, it hasn't played a large part in the story of the world's money—at least, until very recently. When the Welsh people needed coins, they usually made do with other people's. Wales produced a unique silver penny back in the 10th century. And a handful of pieces were produced during the 11th and 12th centuries, during the Norman rule. Then, the country was silent for 500 years—until another brief period when coins were minted, during the troubled years of the struggle between England's King Charles and Parliament.

Wales added little to the story of coin production and design through the 19th century and the first half of the 20th. Then, in 1967, a momentous change took place. The old British Royal Mint was proving inadequate for modern coinage needs. A new facility was approved—and it would be located in South Wales, near Wales' largest city, Cardiff. Better coins could be made at the new, state-of-the-art mint. And the depressed South Welsh economy would be given a boost.

Construction began in 1967, and the new mint was in use a year later. It exceeded its production quota within a year. Built just in time to provide the coins for Britain's new decimal coin system, the mint was soon producing coins for countries around the globe.

Summery of MSNA Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2006: The meeting was called to order by President Kuritzky at 7:45 PM with 18 officers and board members present. Bob Ruby gave a report on the journal cost for the year 2005. Treasurer Keller gave a report on the 2005 show. Ed Craig reported that we received a bad check from one of the dealers that set up at the show. Efforts will taken to try and re-coop the funds. Silver Eagle coins were presented to the members who worked at either the October show or at the “peel and paste” party for the show advertising. For the 2006 show, Paul Singleton will contacted to provide security and Bob Harden will work with the Convention Center for the placement of the show banner. Salisbury Coin Club will be contacted to be host club. Calvin Helmick was approved for life membership.



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2006

4 June - BANC - Towson Holiday Inn, 1100 Cromwell Bridge Road, Towson, MD (Exit 29 South off I-695) 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

13 – 16 July - Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention (Berg Show), Baltimore Convention Center, One West Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

5 – 6 August - Vienna Quarterly Coin & Stamp Show, Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street (Take Park Street (south) off Maple Avenue (Route 123), 1/4 mile on right), Vienna, VA, Free Parking and Admission.

2 – 3 Sept. - Interstate Coin Club Show - Venice Inn - Hotel Ballroom, 431 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD, Free admission and parking.

8 – 10 Sept. - Virginia Numismatic Association, Northern Virginia Community College, R. J. Ernst Community Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike (Capital Beltway Exit 6 West), Annandale, Virginia

15 – 16 Sept. - Red Rose Coin Club Show, Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA, Free Parking and Admission.

17 Sept. - Annapolis Coin and Currency Show - Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Road (Route 2), Annapolis/Edgewater, MD 21037. 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Free Parking and Admission.

1 Oct.- BANC - Towson Holiday Inn, 1100 Cromwell Bridge Road, Towson, MD (Exit 29 South off I-695) 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

7 – 8 Oct. - 34th Annual Maryland State Numismatic Association (MSNA), Ocean City (Roland E. Powell) Convention Center, 4001 Ocean Highway & 40th Street, Ocean City, MD. Free admission and parking. Hours: Friday & Saturday - 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM; Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

LOOKING AHEAD TO FUTURE SHOW DATES

2007

3 - 4 Mar. - Interstate Coin Club Show - Venice Inn - Hotel Ballroom, 431 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD, Free admission and parking.

21 - 25 March - Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention (Berg Show), Baltimore Convention Center, One West Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

1 April - Annapolis Coin and Currency Show - Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Road (Route 2), Annapolis/Edgewater, MD 21037. 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Free Parking and Admission.

10 June - Annapolis Coin and Currency Show - Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Road (Route 2), Annapolis/Edgewater, MD 21037. 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Free Parking and Admission.

1 - 2 Sept. - Interstate Coin Club Show - Venice Inn - Hotel Ballroom, 431 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD, Free admission and parking.

23 Sept. - Annapolis Coin and Currency Show - Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Road (Route 2), Annapolis/Edgewater, MD 21037. 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Free Parking and Admission.

25 Nov. - Annapolis Coin and Currency Show - Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Road (Route 2), Annapolis/Edgewater, MD 21037. 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Free Parking and Admission.

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Donald Curtis

Club Mailing Address:

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President's Message

I just came back from the Annual World's Fair of Money, also Known as the ANA's summer convention. The show went well. The attendance was good, and there was a wide variety of dealers, exhibits, and presentations. Most notable were the U.S. Mint's exhibit of ten 1933 double eagles, the Smithsonian's exhibit of western gold bars and tokens, and exhibits of two 1913 nickels and a 1794 dollar that might have been the first commercial strike. We also got a look at the wonderful patterns and gold coins in the Harry Bass collection, on exhibit at ANA headquarters in Colorado Springs on their Membership Appreciation Day on Sunday.



The summer convention is not just about dealing and exhibiting. Many numismatic organizations hold meetings there and give presentations. Also, many firms and organizations use the convention as a place to make announcements. I attended and spoke at an ANA Board of Governors meeting where they discussed radically changing the exhibit categories. I also sat in on a demonstration of NumisMaster, which is a web-based database Krause Publications is rolling out over the next few years which will automatically provide the latest market values for U.S. and world coins. The ANA announced that they will be running one or two-day in-depth seminars right before each spring and summer convention so you can get some of the flavor of the popular summer seminars.

(which run two weeks) without having to book two flights or use up all your vacation time. The ANA also discussed their changes to the ANA Representative Program.

The District Representatives (of which I am one, as is our secretary Bryce Doxzon) will report directly to the National Coordinator rather than through Regional Coordinators. The ANA plans to set up an on-line "chat room" for representatives so we can learn from each other. The ANA also had copies of their first two issues of the ANA Journal, a scholarly publication available only by subscription.

If you haven't gone to an ANA convention, I highly recommend it. You'll meet a lot of people you've only heard of, and get to share your hobby with hundreds of fellow numismatists from around the world. If you want to start slow, try the spring convention. The next one will be a short flight or half-day drive away in Charlotte, North Carolina March 16-18, 2007. The next summer convention is further, in Milwaukee (August 8-12, 2007), but Krause Publications is looking into sponsoring an open house in nearby Iola with free transportation on Monday. And, of course, the ANA will be in Baltimore the next year (July 30-August 3, 2008). It doesn't get closer to home than that.

Simcha

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**Free Bonus Offered to Maryland State Numismatic Association Members
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Moe Berg



Morris "Moe" Berg was born in New York City on March 2, 1902. He was fortunate enough to grow up and do two things in life he really enjoyed — playing baseball and being an intelligence officer! Moe majored in modern languages at Princeton University, where he played on a championship baseball team. After graduating in 1923, he played for the Brooklyn Dodgers as a first baseman. Later, while attending Columbia Law School, Berg joined the Chicago White Sox, initially as shortstop and later as catcher.

Berg was admitted to the New York State bar in 1928. Even after joining a prestigious law firm, he kept playing for the White Sox! But after Berg was injured, the Sox traded Berg to the Cleveland Indians, and later he was traded to the Washington Senators. He was a member of the Senators' pennant-winning team in 1933, and set an American League record by catching in 117 consecutive games from 1931-1934 without making an error.

In 1934, Moe Berg, along with players including Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig, toured Japan with an American all-star baseball team ... in spite of the fact that Casey Stengel is reported to have said that "Berg could speak in 8 languages, but couldn't hit in any of them." But he wasn't there to hit! The government asked him to make some films of Tokyo Harbor and some military installations, giving Moe his first taste of intelligence gathering ... and he was hooked! In 1938, Berg appeared on the

radio quiz show "Information, Please!" It was these appearances that really made him nationally known. He was dazzling, and NBC received as many as 24,000 letters calling for his return. He would appear twice more.

The last baseball team Moe played for was the Boston Red Sox, where he coached until 1941. Moe Berg got his chance to contribute more to his country when he was asked to tour Latin America for the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, an agency set up to counter German, Italian and Japanese propaganda in Latin America.

His natural ability in languages helped Moe to meet government officials, journalists, and businessmen in Latin America ... and he reported much useful information to the agency's head, Nelson Rockefeller. Moe Berg's really big break came in 1943 when he was recruited into the Office of Strategic Services as a civilian employee. His first assignment was a secret mission to Yugoslavia to assess the strength of the two rival leaders there – Draza Mihajlovic and Joseph Broz Tito. He correctly reported that Tito was stronger.

General William Donovan, the head of the OSS, placed Berg on the AZUSA project. This project looked at the enemy's progress in developing nuclear weapons. He interviewed scientists in Rome two days after the city was liberated by US troops to see how far the Italians had progressed in their research. Berg also entered German-occupied Norway as part of an Allied effort to find and destroy a heavy-water plant. In Switzerland, Berg found out from a visiting German scientist not only how far along the Germans were in developing their weapons of mass destruction, but also the location of the German scientists. This information came in handy after the fall of Germany, when Allied forces found the scientists and took them to England before Soviet forces could find them.

After the OSS was dissolved in 1945, Moe Berg served on the staff of NATO's Advisory Group for Aeronautical Research and Development. He was awarded the Medal of Freedom by the United States in 1946, but modesty led him to return it. Moe Berg may not be in the Baseball Hall of Fame, but he is the only baseball player honored by both the CIA Hall of Fame and the International Spy Museum!

The Moe Berg medal was designed by Eugene Daub, winner of the prestigious Sanford Saltus Medal Award and the Numismatic Art Award for Excellence in Medallion Sculpture.

Bibliography: www.cia.gov and O'Toole, G.J.A. *Encyclopedia of American Intelligence and Espionage*. New York and Oxford: Facts on File, 1988.

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YES, I want to acquire the Moe Berg 2-inch, approximately 3 oz., serial numbered medal(s) indicated below. I understand that my support will help both the **Maryland State Numismatic Association** and the educational programs of the non-profit Jewish-American Hall of Fame.

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 ___ Gold-Plated Pure Silver (35 limit) @ \$150

Add \$5 per order for shipping and insurance.

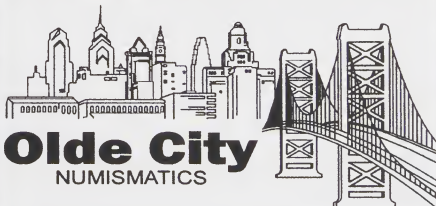
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PUT SOME FUN BACK INTO YOUR COLLECTING

By Bill Fivaz

If you're sick and tired of trying to cope with the grading hassle and feel about ready to chuck the whole shootin' match and start collecting 19th Century Peruvian bottle caps (unslabbed, of course!) Let me try to convince you to consider collecting something a little offbeat (Peruvian bottle caps aren't?), but at the same time very accessible.

If you're a collector...I mean really a collector, how about assembling a W.W.T.S. (World's Worst Type Set). I started this rather bizarre experience about 20 years ago, and I gotta tell you, I've had an absolute ball! The idea is, as the title implies, to obtain the absolute worst specimen of every type of U.S. coin you can find. Now, realizing that "worst" like incest, is a relative term, you will have to decide early on if you want to qualify it to mean worst by virtue of wear only, worst by damage and/or wear, worst by having a hole in it, or what.

And it's not kosher to "manufacture" one yourself just to fill in a hole - no fair hammering an otherwise collectible specimen just to render it uncollectible for your set. The coins must be just as you find them in junk boxes, cull corners, or even in circulation.

You haven't lived until you've seen the look on a dealer's face when you ask to see his "throw-away" box of dogs and then reject most of them because they're "too nice". It's also fun to explain to him that you're working on a set that you need to downgrade, and you want some "real nice bad ones" to plug in.

My collecting M.O. for my set is that any type of wear or damage is fair game, as long as you can tell with certainty what the type is. In other words, you have to be able to see the arrows and date on a Liberty Seated coin for that opening, but who cares if a Barber Half has a date?

Obviously, the earlier type will be very tough to find, but you'll soon realize that the late date clad coinage is equally as scarce. As I said, this is collecting in its purest form, and I guarantee that you'll enjoy the heck out of it while at the same time satisfying that savage collector instinct. And, you won't have to spend the kid's inheritance to put together a presentable (?) set of these "Once UNC" or "was BU" beauties.

If you want to specialize and concentrate on a certain series like Large Cents or Commemoratives, have a go at it....,it's entirely up to you. Enjoy!

2006 Dealer Locations

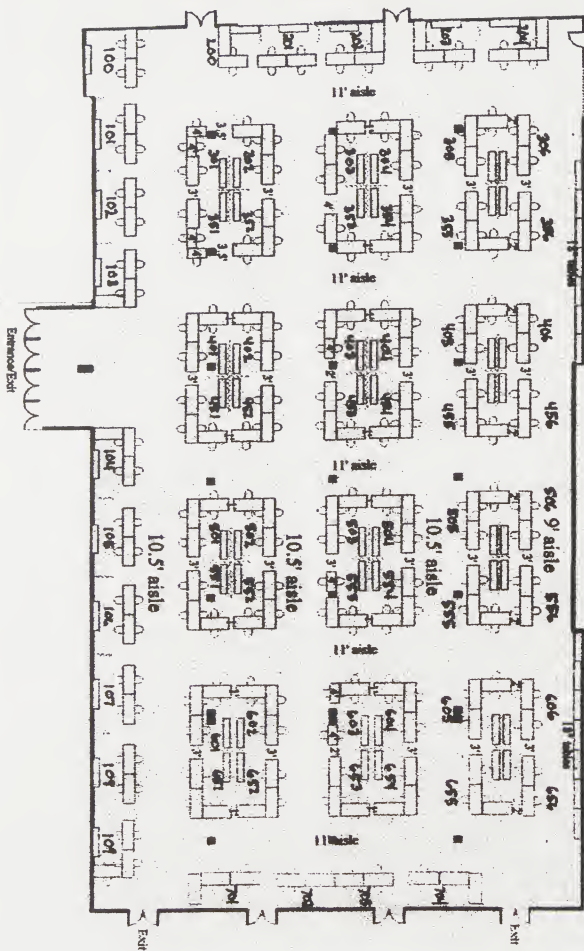
(As of August 31)

Dealer	Table
Aardvark Coins & Collectibles	107
Aberdeen Coin Gallery	106
All-American Coin Co.	104
Bob's Coins	202
Bud's Coins	703
CEO Coins, Currency	451
Claire's Corner	453
Cross Coin Company	453
DEL Numismatics	105
Eckenrode, Dennis – RC	351
EZJ Company	653
Flagship Coins & Currency	602
Forecastle Treasures	601
Golden Eagle	100 – 103
Good 'Ol Bill's Goodies	352
J.E.L. Coins	502
LRC Numismatics	108
Lopez & Associates	501
Main Line Coin	402
Mid Atlantic Coins	301
Nanson Numismatics	401
Nichols Stamps & Coins	356
P. G. C.	201
Robert's Coins	655
Robin Borum Rare Coins	702
Silver Eagle Coins	651
Wayne Herndon RC	452

Other Activities in Ocean City

Other activities in or near the Ocean City Convention Center include, the **Oktoberfest**, three days of Bavarian music and entertainment. Oompah bands, costumed dancers, sing-alongs and puppet shows. Eat drink, and enjoy yourself with schnitzels, wursts and barrels of beer. There will also be an **Oktoberfest Art & Crafts Show** with over 100 exhibitors. **Endless Summer Cruisin** will be held at the Inlet Parking Lot. Featuring over 1500 street rods, custom and classic cars. At the Ocean City Airport, this is **"Fly-In"** weekend, with Antique planes, WW II planes and an air show.

Bourse Floor Plan





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2006 FUTURE SHOW DATES

17 Sept. - Annapolis Coin and Currency Show - Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Road (Route 2), Annapolis/Edgewater, MD 21037. 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Free Parking and Admission.

1 Oct.- BANC - Towson Holiday Inn, 1100 Cromwell Bridge Road, Towson, MD (Exit 29 South off I-695) 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

7 – 8 Oct. - 34th Annual Maryland State Numismatic Association (MSNA), Ocean City (Roland E. Powell) Convention Center, 4001 Ocean Highway & 40th Street, Ocean City, MD. Free admission and parking. Hours: Friday & Saturday - 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM; Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

15 Oct. - Cambridge Coin Club Show: American Legion Hall - Post 91, 601 Radiance Drive / Route 50, Cambridge, MD, Free Admission. Hours 11 AM to 5 PM.

29 Oct. - Associated Coin Club Victory Villa Community Center, 404 Compass Road, Essex, MD Free Admission and Parking.

9 – 12 Nov. - Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention (Berg Show), Baltimore Convention Center, One West Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

11 – 12 Nov. - Western Maryland Coin Club Show, LaVale Fire Hall #-1, 421 National Highway, LaVale, MD (West of Cumberland). Sat. 10 AM to 5 PM, Sun. 10 AM to 3 PM.

18 Nov. - Carroll Country Coin Club Show, Best Western Hotel, 451 WMC Drive, Westminster, MD (Just west of Westminster, off Route 140) Free Parking and Admission, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

26 Nov. - Annapolis Coin and Currency Show - Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Road (Route 2), Annapolis / Edgewater, MD 21037. 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Free Parking and Admission.

IN MEMORY

MERLE HESS

Long time member, Merle Hess passed away on April 14th at the Brethren Home in New Oxford. He was 80 years of age. Surviving are his wife and four children. Merle served in the Penna. National Guard. He was a past president of the Penna. Future Farmers of America. He also served as a Democratic State Committeeman. Merle was active in the numismatic hobby. He was a Past President of both the Baltimore Coin Club and the Hanover Numismatic Society. Memorial services were held at the Unitarian Universalists of Gettysburg.

HERBERT HALL

Herb was a long time member of MSNA and at one time an exhibitor at a lot of our shows. Herb was Life Member number 27.

ANA 2006 CONVENTION – Denver

At the 2006 ANA Convention, held in Denver, approximately a half dozen members of MSNA were in attendance. In the opinion of the editor, the show was not as well attended as previous ANA Conventions. Some of the dealer tables had very few customers. According to one of the staff members that I spoke to, 15,327 persons attended the convention. Getting your World Mints Passport and having the various countries insert the coin and getting their passport stamp was very enjoyable. Of the mints that were scheduled to attend, only the Singapore Mint was a “no show”. The Royal Australian Mint took their place. In all, I collected all 16 coins from the mints that were there. If you have not participated in the passports, looking forward to doing that in 2008 when the ANA comes to Baltimore. The ANA open house in Colorado Springs was well attended on Sunday, August 20th. Great exhibits in the museum. My favorite one was the Bass collection. The library was also open. At 11AM, they started serving the food. Everything was quite tasty. Again, editors opinion.

Colorado Coin Show

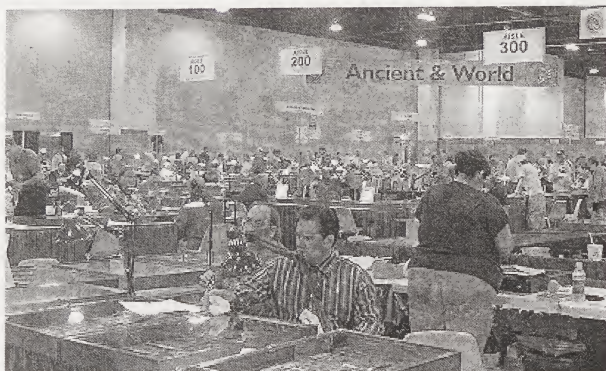


Mint Row

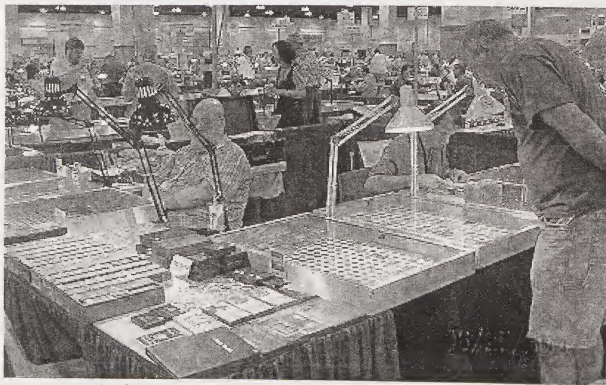


Bourse floor, looking right from entrance

Colorado Coin Show



Bourse floor, looking left from entrance



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MARYLAND STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, Inc.
Thirty-Fourth Annual Convention • October 7 - 8, 2006



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From the Jeff Ferrand Collection

**The Somerset and Worcester Savings Bank
Charter 1856**

The Somerset and Worcester Savings Bank was chartered by the State of Maryland in 1856. It was a prolific issuer of notes during the period of 1862 to 1865, although its actual location in Salisbury is unknown at this point. This note is signed by a local magistrate, Charles Whitelock and also by Joseph Hopkins Tarr, a lawyer instrumental in the foration of Wicomico County in 1867, and was formed from parts of Somerset and Worcester counties.

Note the interesting Serial Number: "3" on the note.

The 2006 Souvenir Card is now available. The cost is \$3.00 each or two for \$5.00. Please make your check payable to MSNA and mail to MSNA Souvenir Card, P.O. Box 2, Fork, MD 21051. Previous years, 1982 to 2005 are also available for the same price. Please add \$1.00 (for each set of three) for postage and handling.

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The Maryland Numismatist



Season's Greeting



2006

VOLUME 34 - No 4



**The
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The *MARYLAND NUMISMATIST* is the quarterly publication of MSNA and is distributed to all members in good standing without additional cost.

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P. O. Box 2212
Westminster, MD 21158-2212

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The Board of Directors of MSNA is composed of the officers, past presidents and club representatives as listed to the right.

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Club Mailing Address:

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President's Message

As some of you may have Read in the commercial numismatic press, I am now the treasurer of the American Israel Numismatic Association (AINA) in addition to continuing as president of MSNA for another year. AINA is now celebrating their fortieth year of existence. The latest (Nov/Dec 2006) journal *The Shekel* describes the glory days of Israel numismatics in the



seventies. AINA held conventions in several cities during the year and there were a number of local Israel Numismatic Societies around the U.S., including one in Maryland (in Rockville). Israel commemoratives regularly sold out (with mintage's of over 60,000), and collectors could immediately sell them to dealers at a substantial profit.

Today is an entirely different story. Israel mints only 2 or 3 thousand silver commemorative coins and they don't always sell out. Older coins that had sold for \$600-\$1000 regularly trade hands today for under \$200. I didn't start collecting Israel commemoratives until 1979 when I was in college, because that was when the prices had dropped enough that I felt I could afford them. I actively bought as the prices plummeted through the Eighties, completing my type set around 1990.

Why did the market drop? Aside from speculation as to the political climate (the Sixties boom got a big boost from the Six Days War in 1967 and the sudden conversion of millions of conservative Christians to Zionism), the fact is that, in 1973 (around the height of the Israel coin

market), there were only 15 years worth of coins and medals to collect. Israel didn't issue commemoratives until her tenth anniversary in 1958. So a complete type set of base metal and silver commemoratives had just 31 coins and 47 state medals. It was an easy set to build, so the demand pushed up the price. Today a type set of just each design would include over 130 coins and the number of different types of state medals surpassed 200 in 1997. Starting a collection today is a much more serious endeavor.

It is a sad fact that investment considerations frequently drive collectors. Sad because coins, currency, tokens and medals have an intrinsic historic and aesthetic value that is unrelated to their marketability and price. All too often collectors run with the herd, only to get trampled by the big bulls. They get excited over what everyone else is buying, buy into a climbing market, then lose interest when prices start to decline. My strategy has always been to buy what is not (or no longer) fashionable, what I can get at reasonable prices, and is interesting in its own right. In addition to Israel coins and medals (which are more meaningful to me than to most Americans since I can understand the Hebrew and Arabic), I collect medals that contain Hebrew script, and amulets and charms from a variety of cultures, especially astrological pieces. While I can't expect any great price appreciation, I can appreciate great medals.

Simcha Kuritzky

CARL EARL OSTIGUY

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2006 GOLD COIN RAFFLE WINNERS

Bob Ruby – Raffle Chairman

1 ST Drawing:	2887	M. Adams	Blue Bell, PA
		(Sold by Karl Keller)	
2 nd Drawing:	1887	Bud Littlejohn	Westminster, MD
		(Sold by Lester White)	
3 rd Drawing:	2007	David Stitley	Media, PA
		(Sold by Joe Burford)	
4 th Drawing:	2731	Jason Valuntis	Baltimore, MD
		(Sold by Nick Kurlick)	

The above winning ticket stubs were drawn by 8 year old Cory Ramey of Salisbury, MD.

2006 EXHIBIT WINNERS

Walt Kitner – Exhibit Chairman

John B. Henry Best of Show Award:

William Cowburn

A Carson City Type Set

Master Award:

Simcha Kuritzky

Creating Modern Israel

Superior Award:

Bryce Doxzon

Honoring Francis Asbury Father
of American Methodism

Appreciation Awards:

William Stratemeyer

Continental Currency Feb. 26,
1777 – So Called Baltimore Issue
A Visit to Ocean City through
Elongated Coins

Millard Hajek.



Registration Table (above) Bourse Floor (below)





Bourse Floor



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Hard Times Tokens

by *Max Spiegel*

During the early 1830s, many foreign investors began to make large purchases of American goods in gold and silver. With all of the capital flowing into the country, banks deposits grew, and the banks soon started to issue many bank notes. With the increased volume of paper currency, inflation skyrocketed, causing prices to soar 15 percent in just six months. This rapid growth caused investors to become more optimistic about the future economic condition of the United States and they soon poured their money into land speculation. Federal income from the sale of land grew exponentially from \$2.6 million in 1832 to \$24.9 million in 1836. In fact, 1836 was the only year in our nation's history that the government was totally debt free and even had a surplus of \$20 million!

Soon the government became alarmed by all of this speculation, and on July 11, 1836, President Andrew Jackson issued the Specie Circular, which stated that all public land must be paid for in gold and silver. The massive land grab ground to a halt and speculators, unable to pay their mortgages, had their property foreclosed by the banks. The banks, in turn, could not sell off this land for high enough prices to recover their losses. Now, the huge increase in inflation quickly turned to deflation, and between February and May of 1837 commodity prices fell 30 percent. People began rushing to the banks to withdraw their money and within a short period of time the banks ran out of specie. On May 10, 1837, banks suspended all specie payments. Panic quickly spread throughout the country.

Hard times tokens technically began to be minted in 1832, in response to Jackson's veto of the bill establishing the Second Bank of the United States. Many of the tokens feature a satirical theme, mocking Jackson's veto of the bank. Others have a more political theme with party slogans that feature people whom the minters supported. These tokens were around the same size as official US cents and half cents, and minted out of copper. While at first the tokens were produced to lobby for the Bank of the United States or against President Jackson, after the Panic of 1837, they began to be minted as necessity pieces because copper coins were hard to come by in circulation. Some of these continued the theme of satirical or sarcastic comments such as Charles Pickney's famous phrase, "Millions for Defense, Not One Cent for Tribute" from 40 years earlier. When Martin van Buren took office in 1837, he too was mocked by these tokens. Other tokens advertised the issuing merchant's business. Eventually, the nationwide depression ended and by 1844 these hard times

tokens were no longer minted. It would not be long, however, before similar tokens were produced as the Civil War was less than 20 years away. Today, these Hard Times Tokens serve as remnants of a difficult time in American history.

Spanish Pillar Dollars

by Max Spiegel

In 1492 with Columbus's arrival in America, the Spanish colonization of the New World began. The conquistadors and early settlers were amazed to find rich gold and silver deposits throughout South America. These deposits were mined and then sent all around the world. As commerce and trade expanded in the colonies, the Spanish government realized that it was necessary to produce coins for use in business transactions. The first mint was established in 1535 in Mexico City, and others were quickly opened in Lima, Peru (1568-1589, reopened in 1684), Potosí, Bolivia (1575), and Santa Fe de Bogotá, Columbia (1620). These mints would later be followed by Guatemala City (1733), Santiago, Chile (1750), and Popayan, Columbia (1758).

At the early mints, coins were produced with an image of the shield of Leon and Castile on the obverse, and two columns, representing the Pillars of Hercules, on the reverse. This design was modified in 1542. A major change, however, came in 1572 when new dies, ordered by King Philip II, arrived. Because there was great demand for silver back in Spain, it was necessary for the minters to focus on quantity, rather than quality. They began to produce irregular coins known as cobs. These coins were made by cutting a silver bar in pieces of appropriate weight with no concern for thickness or shape. The pieces of silver were then struck with the dies, just like other coins. The problem was that the cobs were disfigured, often very thick, and of poor quality. Many cobs were cracked and rarely had a clear impression from the dies. There were only a small number of full-sized, round versions of the cobs produced during the 17th century, but these were most likely used as presentation pieces.

After 150 years of cobs being produced throughout the Spanish colonies, it was decided that another reform was needed because of new, more advanced minting techniques. Laws were passed in 1728 and 1730 that mandated the use of this new technology. The weight and fineness of the eight reales were reduced to 417.6 grains (about 0.95 ounces) and .9166 fine. The Mexico City mint was the first to begin striking these new coins and stop producing cobs in 1732. These coins were struck using a screw press, unlike cobs which were hammered. In order to use the screw press, the planchets had to be milled, a process to make them more uniform. Because of the enormous pressure put on the planchet by the screw press, all of the coins were equal in size and had a full, clear design. In order to assure quality even further, two assayers were required to supervise the production of the coins, as

opposed to the one required for cobs. Each assay was required to put his initial on the coin as a way of "signing off" on the finished product. As a security measure, the coins were struck with a special collar, giving them a tulip-looking design along the edge. This feature was meant to protect the coins from clipping or filing, because it would be evident that such wrong-doing occurred if the tulips were missing.

The milled coins came in denominations of one half, one, two, four and eight reales. The obverse featured the arms of Castile and Leon, with a crown about them. Circling this was the name of the monarch and his/her title. The assayers' initials were also on the obverse. The reverse design depicts two columns, symbolizing the Pillars of Hercules, with a banner wrapped around with the legend "PLUS VITRA" (More Beyond). In the middle of these two columns are the Straits of Gibraltar. Above them are two orbs with a crown in the middle, representing the old and new worlds. At the bottom of the reverse is the date, with the mintmark placed on either side of the columns. The design of these coins remained the same until 1772 with the exception of slight variations in the location of the assayers' initials and mintmark.

The eight reale denomination of these milled coins is often referred to as a Pillar Dollar or piece of eight. It circulated throughout the world and was the most popular coin used in the British colonies. It was often cut into "bits" or pieces in order to make change, thus gaining its nickname "pieces of eight." In fact, it was so widely accepted that when the fledgling United States began to strike coins, it modeled the size, weight, purity, and denominations of its coinage after the Spanish milled coins. For example two bits, or two reales, equaled a quarter. Pillar dollars, along with other foreign coins, remained legal tender in the United States until February 21, 1857. Although the Pillar Dollars ceased to be minted after a Spanish monetary reform in 1772, which altered the obverse by replacing the arms of Leon and Castile with a portrait of the king, the famed Pillar Dollars had a lasting legacy. Phrases such as "two bits" and "pieces of eight" are still used, although to a lesser extent, in American vocabulary. Also, when the New York Stock Exchange opened in 1792, prices were set in New York shillings, which were valued at one real. Because there were eight reales in a Spanish milled dollar, price changes were reported in eighths. Although prices on the New York Stock Exchange are no longer priced in New York shillings, changes in the prices of stocks and securities are still reported in eighths. Pillar dollars were probably the most influential trade coins since the Dutch "dog dollars." Today, one can still purchase Pillar Dollars for very reasonable prices. Recently a book, Cobs, Pieces of Eight and Treasure Coins, written by Stewart Menzel, was published. While I have not yet seen a copy, I have heard that it catalogues these coins with all possible information needed by a collector (e.g. assayers, mints, etc.). Although Pillar Dollars have long since been removed from circulation, they have left a lasting mark on America's coinage. Today they serve as examples of a time long past where pirates ruled the seven seas, and the Americas were dominated by European colonies.



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The following article was send to me via e-mail. Slightly condensed and modified by the journal editor.

THE ONE DOLLAR BILL...

Author - Unknown

Take out a one-dollar bill. The one-dollar bill you're looking at first came off the presses in 1957 in its present design. This so-called paper money is in fact a cotton and linen blend, with red and blue minute silk fibers running through it. It is actually material. We've all washed it without it falling apart. A special blend of ink is used, the contents we will never know. It is overprinted with symbols and then it is starched to make it water resistant and pressed to give it that nice crisp look.

If you look on the front of the bill, you will see the United States Treasury Seal. On the top you will see the scales for a balanced budget. In the center you have a carpenter's square, a tool used for an even cut. Underneath is the Key to the United States Treasury. That's all pretty easy to figure out, but what is on the back of that dollar bill is something we should all know.

If you turn the bill over, you will see two circles. Both circles, together, comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a seal. It took them four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved. If you look at the left-hand circle, you will see a Pyramid. Notice the face is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the West or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything. "IN GOD WE TRUST" is on this currency. The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means, "God has favored our undertaking." The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means, "a new order has begun." At the base of the pyramid is the Roman Numeral for 1776. If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every National Cemetery in the United States. It is also on the Parade of Flags Walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery, and is the

centerpiece of most heroes' monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States, and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbols mean. The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong, and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own. At the top of that shield you have a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor. We were coming together as one nation. In the Eagle's beak you will read, "E PLURIBUS UNUM", meaning, "one nation from many people."

Above the Eagle, you have thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one. Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows. They say that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor. But think about this: 13 original colonies, 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 13 stripes on our flag, 13 steps on the Pyramid, 13 letters in the Latin above, 13 letters in "E Pluribus Unum", 13 stars above the Eagle, 13 bars on that shield, 13 leaves on the olive branch, 13 fruits, and if you look closely, 13 arrows. And, for minorities: the 13th Amendment. I always ask people, "Why don't you know this?" Your children don't know this, and their history teachers don't know this. Too many veterans have given up too much too ever let the meaning fade. Many veterans remember coming home to an America that didn't care. Too many veterans never came home at all. Share this page with someone, so they can learn what is on the back of the UNITED STATES ONE DOLLAR BILL, and what it stands for...Otherwise, they will probably never know...either.

2007 FUTURE SHOW DATES

4 Feb.- BANC - Towson Holiday Inn, 1100 Cromwell Bridge Road, Towson, MD (Exit 29 South off I-695) 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

11 Feb. - Salisbury Coin Club Show - Wicomico Youth & Civic Center, 500 Glenn Avenue, Salisbury, MD Free Admission 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

3 - 4 Mar. - Interstate Coin Club Show - Venice Inn - Hotel Ballroom, 431 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD, Free admission and parking.

23 – 25 March - Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention (Berg Show), Baltimore Convention Center, One West Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

1 April - Annapolis Coin and Currency Show - Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Road (Route 2), Annapolis/Edgewater, MD 21037. 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Free Parking and Admission.

13 May - Westminster Fire Hall Coin and Currency Show
Westminster Fire Hall – John Street Quarters, 28 John Street, Westminster, MD; Free Parking and Free Admission, Hours: 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

4 June.- BANC - Towson Holiday Inn, 1100 Cromwell Bridge Road, Towson, MD (Exit 29 South off I-695) 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

10 June - Annapolis Coin and Currency Show - Knights of Columbus Hall, 2590 Solomon's Road (Route 2), Annapolis/Edgewater, MD 21037. 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Free Parking and Admission.

29 June – 1 July - Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention (Berg Show), Baltimore Convention Center, One West Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

1 – 2 Sept. - Interstate Coin Club Show - Venice Inn - Hotel Ballroom, 431 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD, Free admission and parking.

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For three years running, Metro Coin and Currency of Jessup, Maryland has provided some much needed and appreciated support to the Maryland State Numismatic Association (MSNA). For 2006, Metro Coins worked with William Massey (Luck "E" Penny – Elongated Coin Roller) to produce a very unique elongated coin set. The one of a kind, five coin set consists of the five 2006 Silver Proof Quarters rolled with the 2006 MSNA Annual Coin Show and Convention die. This die has the design for the Ocean City Maryland show held this past October as designed by Millard Hajek. Metro commissioned a similar, unique five coin silver proof quarter set in 2005. In 2004, they donated a five dollar gold piece that was rolled using the 2004 MSNA die. These very unique elongated sets have become extremely popular with elongated and Maryland collectors. Metro Coin and Currency's generosity with the donation of these elongated items is just the latest example of their continued support for the state and local coin clubs. MSNA wishes to publicly acknowledge this exemplary dealer support for our hobby.

**DAVE – STEVE
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